



American Support for Clean Energy Remains Strong

[New polling](#) on clean energy and climate legislation shows high support for clean energy among voters, including Independents

Americans support comprehensive energy and climate legislation.

- The majority of voters, or 58 percent, in 16 battleground states support a cap-and-trade bill like the House-passed American Clean Energy and Security Act that invests in clean, renewable energy sources [[Benenson Strategy Group](#), January 20, 2010].

Voters are more likely to re-elect their senator if they voted in favor of a clean energy and climate change bill like the House bill.

- A majority of voters, or 56 percent, would be more likely to re-elect a senator for voting favorably on a comprehensive clean energy and climate bill.
- Fifty percent of those polled would be less likely to re-elect their senator if they voted against the bill [[Benenson Strategy Group](#), January 20, 2010].

Americans' support for reducing global warming pollution is so strong they believe the Environmental Protection Agency should act if Congress doesn't.

- Fifty-nine percent of voters agree that EPA should take action to regulate carbon polluters.
- Support for EPA action is particularly high among Independents (61 percent) [[Benenson Strategy Group](#), January 20, 2010].

[Many other polls](#) show broad support—including from Independents—for clean energy and climate policies that create jobs and cut pollution

Six in 10 Independents favor cap and trade.

- Six in 10 Independents support a cap-and-trade system to limit greenhouse gases. [[CNN](#), October 27, 2009]

The public believes a cap-and-trade system to address climate change would help the economy.

- When voters are asked whether they think cap and trade will help or hurt the U.S. economy without any mention of the benefits of a climate bill—which include strengthening

national security, creating clean-energy jobs and new industries, and a cleaner environment—43 percent say it will help the economy.

- Thirty-two percent say cap and trade will hurt the economy, and 19 percent say it will have no impact [[Allstate/National Journal/Heartland Monitor](#), January 7, 2010].

The majority of Americans support greenhouse gas reductions even if these reductions raise energy bills.

- Three out of five voters support reducing greenhouse gas emissions even if it raised monthly expenses by \$10 a month.
- Fifty-five percent would still support reductions if it raised expenses by \$25 a month [[Washington Post-ABC](#), December 13, 2009].

Voters agree that action on global warming will generate jobs.

- Half of voters in 16 battleground states that have a large number of swing senators—including AK, AR, IN, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NV, ND, NH, OH, PA, SD, VA, and WV—believe jobs will increase under a clean-energy jobs and climate bill.
- Twenty-six percent say jobs will decrease and 26 percent say the number of jobs won't change [[Benenson Strategy Group](#), August 24, 2009].

Do you think the following will help or hurt the U.S. economy?

